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CAWMC OFFICERS

President, Secretary-Treasurer, Membership Chairman: Al Munro E-mail: woods5cents@shaw.ca

Ph: (403) 273-6133

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Past-President, Chairman of Board of Governors: Norm Belsten

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President's Message

Canadian Thanksgiving has come and gone. Like last year, Thanksgiving weather was very nice this year, but, this year's Thanksgiving was hard on me. My brother, who passed away this summer would have been 67 on Thanksgiving day October 10, 2011 so we chose to stay home and not to travel to Edmonton as we usually do because we always included a visit with him I thank everyone who expressed their sympathy for us and especially to Judy who made a donation to RCNA Kids Coin program on his behalf. I hope that the weather holds until the first weekend in November so we can attend the Edmonton Coin Club fall show, and visit with my remaining family.

I am going to take a few lines to describe a personal collection I have that I think is rather unique. The unique collection I am talking about is my collection of honorary life memberships. On October14th. Marion and I attended a milestone luncheon in Calgary, where I received my honorary life membership as a Chartered Accountant after 40 years of continuous membership. This lifetime membership joins my other honorary life memberships in the Calgary Philatelic Society, the Calgary Numismatic Society, the First Canadian Collectors Club, which is a Calgary antique and collectable club previously known as the First Canadian Bottle Collectors Club, and of course my honorary life membership in CAWMC. I am very proud of this collection and I now consider my collection to be compete as I am not active enough in any other organization to warrant recognition.

As I have said we have just celebrated our Canadian Thanksgiving and by the time you read this it will be less than two months to Christmas. It is now time to order our wooden Christmas cards and it is also time for anyone else who wishes to issue wooden Christmas cards to contact your supplier if you have not already done so. When you issue a wooden Christmas card I request you advise your editor with details of number issued, manufacturer etc along with details of availability if you wish to make them available to other collectors. If you choose to donate a Christmas or other wood to CAWMC I am pleased to announce that our membership has stabilized at the point where we require 100 woods each month to provide everyone with a free wood. Remember to send a scan of your Christmas wood to our Editor to include in our Timber Talk, and to Norm for is catalogue.

Fall is also the time to renew your memberships in all the clubs, including CAWMC, and I encourage you to fill in the renewal forms as soon as you receive them. We hope to include renewal forms both with the hard copies and the electronic copies of Timber Talk. Lou Vesh has provided an updated address as his room number changed, so his whole address is 878 Armour Road, Room 102, Peterborough, On. K9H 2A6 Cda.; and his phone number is 705-745-5630.

In closing, I would like to remind you again that Timber Talk is the life line of our hobby and I continue to ask on behalf of our editor that you take a few minutes and write a short article for inclusion in the bulletin. The article could be on how you started collecting wood, your favourite wood, how you discovered a new wood or a request for assistance in identifying a wood in your collection. If anyone wishes to contact me on any issue you can reach me by mail at **Al Munro**, Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1, by phone at 403-273-6133 or by email at wood5cents@shaw.ca.

Good collecting to everyone.



Appointed Officers

Editor: Judy Blackman E-Mail: jblackman@rogers.com

Assistant Editor: Norm Belsten

Distribution: Ross Kingdon

Fund Raiser: Lou Vesh & Dave Gillespie

Auction Co-ordinator and Membership Dues: Al Munro

Annual Membership Dues in Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors are:

- Canadian Residents: \$10, Cdn. Funds
- Youth (16 years old and under) \$5 Cdn.
 Funds
- U.S. A. Residents: \$10 U.S. Funds
- International Members Rate (outside Cda. -U.S.A.): \$20 Cdn. Funds

Dues paid to:

Mr. Al Munro, P.O. Box 2643, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3C1, Canada

The Lakeshore Coin Club "Wooden Nickel"

submitted by Barry Uman



While doing some searching of the Lakeshore Coin Club archives, I came across this interesting newspaper report on the now rare 1969 L.C.C. banquet wood that may be of interest to our membership. Unfortunately the copy is not good quality but I have attached better pictures of the wood.

At the annual dinner in May, 1969, those present received a "wooden nickel" which had been created by the Lindsey family. Mrs. Lindsey has described how this came about. "The wooden 'nickels' or 'mementos' were made using the design from the crest on the letterhead of the stationery of the Lakeshore Coin Club. The design was transferred in reverse to the polished surface of a piece of cast iron, which was actually a pipe plug. The excess metal was then cut away leaving the design raised. The discs of hardwood were cut from rejected wheelbarrow handles sent to me by a friend in Woodstock, Ontario, then shaped and sanded. The heated cast iron tool was used to burn the design into one side of the disc. The other side was stamped with the date and the disc sprayed with a clear finish. My husband, Percy, made the tool and our son Keith, who was a junior member at the time, helped in making the mementos. I was in charge of the annual dinner that year and, since wood represents the fifth anniversary, suggested that we obtain 'wooden nickels' as souvenirs for those attending

the dinner. After making enquiries about purchasing some, it was found that the minimum order was too large and the price too high for the club at that time. So my husband and I decided that we should try to make some 'wooden nickels' as mementos for those attending the dinner. We made one for each person attending the dinner plus two extra which were requested by a member of the executive, one to be given to someone in Ottawa. I think that the other was for someone in Montreal but I am not sure of this." From records of the dinner, it appears that 55 of these pieces must have been manufactured.



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CANADIAN ASSOCIATION



Past Presidents:

2003—2005: Norm Belsten

2001—2003: Earl Salterio*

1995—2001: Lou Vesh

1991—1995: Pat White*

1985—1991: Norm Belsten

1983—1985: Neil Probert

1981—1983: Stanley Clute

1979—1981: Don Robb

1977—1979: Victor Hall*

1975—1977: Garry Braunwarth

(*Deceased)

Lions \$300,000 Lucky Loot Calgary 2009

Free Wood of the Month of November 2011

Our November wood of the month is provided by Al Munro. The wood is the "Lions \$300,000 Lucky Loot Calgary 2009" wood. It is Black both sides, 38mm in diameter, and is listed in our catalogue as 8140 - 372. Since we are talking about Lions, we included 8140-371, 8140-357 Lions Lucky Loot 2008 large multi / bl 50mm round 2,500 issued and 8140-356 Lions Lucky Loot 2008 small br / br 38mm round 1,700c..

The Calgary Lions Clubs given to purchasers of lottery tickets at the Calgary Stampede. They first issued two in 2008, a small token which was given to purchasers of a single ticket and a large one given to purchasers of a multi ticket pack. In 2009 they issued just a single wood and in 2010 they did not issue any wood at all. We will have to check with Norm as he shows 356 and 357 as 2008 and 371 as 2009 and 372 as 2010. CAWMC Darryl Atchison's father was a Lion's club member involved in the issuing of the wood.



Follow up to Reluctant Fisherman article from David Phillips ("Rusty")

A few years ago I was sent a scan of a Reluctant Fisherman of Cordova "wood" for my Alaska listing. Some months later the sender got back to me and said the "wood" was, in fact, not a wood, but was a composite material instead. So the "wood" was deleted from my listing. Thus I am curious / concerned / worried or something like that, that the wood you show is actually a wood! If it is, great. Could you please confirm that this item is actually a "real wood".

Editor response: this is from Bob Lenz's collection. It could be a plastic or other composite material. There are two types, one for 25 cents and one for 50 cents, both are 38mm round gold finished. One of them says on it "don't take a wooden nickel". Here's a couple of fishermen "reluctant" to use fishing poles.



George Angus (Canada) Ltd.

Angus Fire is the only company in the world that develops and manufactures fire hose, foam concentrates and fire fighting equipment. It has a long history of pioneering innovation and its product brands are some of the best known and most trusted in the fire industry.

Angus Fire's traditions go back over two hundred years from the time when fire hose was made from riveted strips of leather to the present day when it is made from the latest in advanced rubber and textile technology. It recently celebrated the centenary of its manufacturing facility at Bentham in North Yorkshire. Local tradition has it that the sails of Admiral Nelson's famous flagship HMS Victory were made at the original cotton mill at Bentham.



1672 - George Angus, a skinner and glover, is admitted as a Freeman of Newcastle.

1788 - Joseph Angus founds leather business in Newcastle.

1888 - Company registered as a Public Company under the name of George Angus & Company Limited.

1904 - Company purchased the hose and belting part of the Bentham Spinning & Weaving Co. and started to manufacture hose at Bentham.

1950 - Angus Canada began operations with fire hose production in Toronto.

1962 - Angus Fire Armour Limited formed.

1968 - Angus acquired by Dunlop. Eau et Feu in France acquired by Angus.

1977 - Hose factory opened in North Carolina, USA.

1980 - Guthrie acquires Angus from Dunlop.

1983 - Angus Australia established manufacturing fire hose, then foam concentrates.

1988 - BBA acquired Guthrie.

1994 - Williams Holdings acquire Angus Fire Armour Limited from BBA.

2000 - Williams plc de-merged into Kidde plc and Chubb plc. Angus Fire becomes part of Kidde plc.

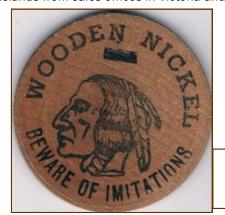
2002 - Angus Fire becomes part of Kidde Products Division of Kidde Fire Protection Services Limited.

2005 - Kidde plc acquired by United Technologies Corp. and combined with Chubb to form UTC Fire & Security with headquarters in Connecticut, USA.

2010 - Paul Williams appointed Managing Director.

Global Structure

Angus Fire has customers in over 100 countries spread over a wide range of sectors including major oil and petrochemical companies, international airports, military bases, power stations, harbours and ports, and local authority fire and rescue services. Angus Fire manufactures fire hose, foam concentrates, firefighting equipment and building protection products at Bentham in North Yorkshire. Product sales and technical support are located at Thame in Oxfordshire. The company does business in over 100 countries throughout Europe, Africa, the Arabian Gulf, Asia, South America and the Caribbean through a global network of over 60 distributors and Kidde regional sales offices. Eau et Feu, located at Reims, is the largest fire hose and foam manufacturer in France. In North America Angus Fire supplies fire hose and foam concentrates from Angier, North Carolina and from Toronto in Canada. Angus Fire South Africa manufactures foam concentrate in Johannesburg and foam equipment in Durban, with sales offices in Johannesburg, Durban and CapeTown. Angus Fire Australia supplies fire hose and foam concentrate to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands from sales offices in Victoria and New South Wales.



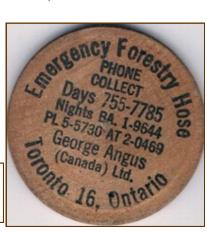


George Angus Emergency Forestry Wooden Nickel Token



George Angus, grandson of the founder Joseph Angus, joined the company in 1836





Angus Fire has maintained its position at the forefront of fire protection technology through continuous investment in research and development. This is carried out at an international network of laboratories and fire test facilities in the UK, France, Canada, South Africa and Australia. Its unique combination of technical expertise in rubber and textile technology (fire hose), speciality chemicals (foam concentrates) and engineering design (firefighting equipment) has enabled it to achieve numerous technological "firsts":

- 1943 Flamefighter was the first Reinforced Rubber Lined (RRL) layflat fire hose.
- 1965 Duraline was the first maintenance-free covered fire hose.
- 1968 AF120 was the first mobile foam unit.
- 1971 FP70 was the first FluoroProtein foam concentrate.
- 1981 Petroseal was the first Film-Forming FluoroProtein (FFFP) foam.
- 1987 OM1 was the first water turbine-powered oscillating monitor.
- 1990 Long Throw Sprinkler was the first sprinkler head for atrium protection.
- 1992 FP70 Plus was the first FluoroProtein foam concentrate specially developed for use on MTBE.
- 1992 Alcoseal 3-3 was the first 3% multipurpose Alcohol Resistant FFFP foam concentrate.
- 1994 WASP was the first fully-integrated Wide-range Accurate Sprinkler Proportioner for foam enhanced sprinkler systems.
- 1995 Colossus was the first large-capacity aspirating foam cannon.
- 1997 K20H was the first specialist foam/water sprinkler nozzle for storage tank cooling.
- 1998 Uniductor was the first portable foam inductor specially designed to handle the different viscosity characteristics of standard and Alcohol Resistant foams.
- 1999 Niagara was the first UL Listed high fluidity multipurpose foam concentrate.
- 2000 Sorcerer was the first self-contained mobile fire detection and suppression system for light aircraft.
- 2001 Streamline was the first range of modular foam/water monitors.
- 2003 Benchmark was the first range of fire equipment with over 600 standard models.
- 2005 Angus partnered BP in the first large-scale LNG fire tests using realistic scenarios.
- 2008 New range of Titan fire fighting monitors launched

Products

Angus Fire is the world's largest manufacturer of layflat covered fire hose with more than 35 million metres of our leading brand Duraline supplied worldwide. By continuous development of rubber specification and "through the weave" manufacturing, our hose products provide the ultimate in durability and performance. We are also the world number one manufacturer of fire fighting foam concentrates for flammable liquid fire protection. These are approved to international standards and designed to have a low environmental impact. Our comprehensive range of low-maintenance foam-making equipment includes foam proportioning and delivery devices for portable, mobile and fixed applications. The company also manufactures one of the world's most extensive range of portable pumps for fire fighting and flood relief operations. Its Building Protection Division provides a comprehensive range of fire equipment including sprinklers, extinguishers, rising mains systems, hose reels and fire equipment cabinets.

A range of innovative non-fire fighting products has also been developed including flexible pipelines for agriculture, irrigation systems, groundwater extraction and "no dig" water pipe re-lining; and specialist foams for lightweight concrete, explosion suppression and simulated "snow effects" for the film industry.

Services

Angus Fire Engineering (AFE) is a leading fire engineering contractor that combines the company's three core technologies to offer a total capability approach to fire suppression systems from initial design, through equipment supply, to full-scale commissioning. After -sales services include the award-winning Foam Testing Service for monitoring the condition of foam concentrate held in long-term storage. Angus Direct offers top brands of fire hose like Duraline ex-stock in popular sizes ready for guaranteed next day delivery. The Angus Fire Emergency Service delivers urgently need stocks of foam concentrate and firefighting equipment to major incident sites worldwide. In recent years, we have supplied foam concentrate to major incidents in Japan, Spain, Turkey, Libya and the UK.

Angus Fire's social responsibility focuses on improving the quality of life of people in the regions where the company operates and on supporting fire services worldwide. In recent years the company has donated to cancer care and hospice charities and the UK Fire Services National Benevolent Fund. Following the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, Angus Fire LW2300 pumps were rushed to the disaster area by Colombo Fire Brigade to remove seawater from wells so villagers could have a fresh supply of drinking water. On National Children's Day in Turkey in 2005 Angus Fire donated mini fire helmets to youngsters who took a day off from school to have a go at doing their parents' jobs at the Tupras Refinery Fire Service in Izmit. In 2005 Angus Fire joined forces with the web-based StayWise safety project for schools run by the Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service. In 2007 Angus Fire sponsored the Fire Services National Benevolent Fund (FSNBF) National Car Wash. It also donated some fire hose and fire fighting foam to the Nigerian Fire Service as part of a Fire Aid package.

Les Brittan, Nuctioneer

Port Hope, Ontario brittansauctions@gmail.com P/F: 905-885-5650

Serving Northumberland County for 30 Years!

This is in Norm's catalogue as 5408-001, Hastings, Ont., 1982, 500 issued, BL / BL, round 38.6mm / 2.76gm LES BRITTAN — AUCTIONEER.



Out to Lunch! with Peter Neilly

I am having lunch today with Les Brittan, one of the most entertaining auctioneers in the business. I first met Les 12 years ago at an auction he was conducting. As I entered the auction hall, I could see Les holding an oak toilet seat above his head, trying to auction it off and describing it as a mother-in-law's picture frame, while trying to avoid the glaring looks from his wife, Linda. Les has chosen The Grafton Village Inn in Grafton, Ontario, for lunch. The Inn, originally opened in 1820 as John Grovers Tavern, is today operated as a successful bed and breakfast inn, with an excellent restaurant.

Photo - Les shares a moment with a penguin before the annual architectural Conservancy of Ontario (Port Hope Branch) auction April 15. Items sold by Les at this auction were donated to raise funds for the ACO. (Anyone want a penguin? Going, going...SOLD)

Peter: Les, you have been involved in the antique and auctioneering business for over 35 years. What got you started in this crazy field?

Les: My wife, Linda and I had just sold our house in Burlington and were looking to buy in Northumberland because we liked the area. We saw a general store in Roseneath that we both liked, but it sold before we had a chance to make an offer. We ended up buying a place that was being operated as The Maple Lodge. It was owned by a lady who used to rent rooms to the men working on the highway. We had the only home with numbers on the bedroom doors and four bathrooms. We opened an antique store there and started going to auctions to buy stock. We would bid on a piece of furniture, bring it home, strip it, refinish it, polish it and display it in the store for sale. If it didn't sell after a while, we would take it back to the auction, where we would usually get a little bit more for it. Eventually, a light went on. The auctioneer would receive 25% from the original owner for selling it to us, we would do all the refinishing work, send it back to the auction, and the auctioneer would get another 25% from us. Here is a guy who gets 50% and didn't even own the piece. I liked the concept. I would always mimic the auctioneer while driving back from the sale and eventually my wife suggested that I become an auctioneer.

Peter: Did you take a course?

Les: I took a course at an auctioneering school in Mason City, Iowa. It was originally started after the Second World War as an auction training school for military personal returning from the war without a vocation.

Peter: I know you have volunteered your services to many fund raisers and charities over the years and you have received many awards in recognition of your help. You also won The Auctioneer of the Year award in 1977.

Les: I really have enjoyed the business and I have met a lot of excellent people. My son, Shawn, is also an auctioneer. When he was young he would work as a handler at my auctions. He now operates Brittan's Auction Hall in the London area. He sells antiques as well, but specializes in vintage motorcycles. He also does appraisals for customized bikes all over Ontario.

Peter: Over the years, you must have come across some interesting items at your sales and been involved in a few weird situations.

Les: I got call from a man in Cold Springs a few years back asking if I would do an auction for him at his farm. I asked what items he had to sell and he said just one, a horse. He was owed money by the horse's owner for feed and boarding and was legally allowed to sell the horse at auction to recoup his money. I explained that it was his legal obligation to advertise the auction first and that as long as I got a day's pay, I would be glad to conduct the auction. The sale time was 12 noon a few weeks later, so I arrived about 11 to set up. By 11:30, nobody had shown up and by 11:45, still nobody. Finally at 11:59, a half-ton pickup pulls up the drive and a huge man steps out and yells, "Is this the auction and where the hell's my horse?" The seller of the horse, who hired me, had disappeared. So I decide to start the sale. "Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the sale." There is still only the one guy at the auction and he's standing there staring at me. I'm thinking it was hardly worth hooking up the speakers for this and I'm afraid to ask him if he has a bidding number, although I guess his number would be No. 1. I think the storage fees owed for the horse came to just over \$1,800, but the horse was probably worth about six or seven thousand dollars. I read off the terms of the sale, explaining the lawful reason why the horse was being sold, and I try to start the bidding at \$1,837.27 and there is absolute silence. And who do you look at when there's still only this one 6-foot 6, 300-pound man staring at me and he's now holding the horse. From out behind the barn, I hear this faint voice saying "I bid \$1,900." It's the guy who is owed the money. Anyway the horse eventually sold to the owner (bidder No. 1) for \$2,250.

Peter: There must be a lot of stories from all the auctions you've done. You could probably write a book.

Les: When I had the auction hall just north of Cobourg on Burnham Street, I got a call from a lady in town asking me to come over and pick up a few things she wanted to sell at the auction. She explained that she just lived down the street, but that I must come to her house between 12 and 1 o'clock and that I must be prompt. I showed up on time and she quickly ushered me downstairs. She asked me to take a few small items and a pair of ornate pressback chairs that had a unique pattern on them. I took the chairs and the other items back to the auction hall and one week later, I'm selling them. There's a guy at the back of the hall who is determined to buy these chairs and he keeps bidding until he owns them for around \$300. After the sale, this guy is still hanging around and he comes up to me and says, "You're not going to believe this, but I just live down the street and I have been searching for years to find a pair of chairs to match the ones I have in the basement and these are identical. Isn't it amazing?" Luckily, I've never seen or heard from either of them since.

Peter: Have you seen many changes in the auction business since you started?

Les: I think it's really interesting how much the marketplace has changed and I've been around long enough to be part of it. Prices have fluctuated; the demographics have changed and will continue to change. I did an appraisal last January for an elderly lady who was going into a retirement home. When she called she said that there weren't many things because the kids were going to take most of it, but asked if I would mind coming over to look at what she had. When I arrived she took me into the kitchen and showed me a nice oak table and chair set. The table had claw and ball feet and was in good condition so I told her the set should bring about \$500 at an auction. "Five hundred dollars?" she yelled. "I paid that for it 20 years ago and I bought it from you. I thought you could get me a couple of thousand dollars for it." There were also some press back chairs and I told her they were worth between \$125 to \$130 each because they were in good shape, not painted and had matching patterns. "One hundred and twenty five?" she yelled once more. "I paid \$125 for them and I bought those from you, too; and you told me that was a good deal back then." I explained that it was a good deal back then, but the market changes. Prices and values fluctuate over time. Trends and tastes change, although I'm not sure if MacTac or Roxitone paint will ever make a comeback.

Continued on page 10...

Cobalt Northern Ontario Mining Museum

from museum archives





This is 38mm round B / B 5190-001 Cobalt Ontario Cradle of Mining 1903 issued on 60th Anniversary in 1963. When the rush for silver began in 1903, the town now known as Cobalt in Ontario changed forever, and is now a designated National Historic Site of Canada. By the 1930s, the mines were virtually finished and abandoned. Most of the prospectors and miners moved on to places like Timmins, Kirkland Lake, and Rouyn-Noranda. Unlike many mining boomtowns, Cobalt continued to be inhabited. It was never a ghost town.

Like Sudbury, metallic mineral mining at Cobalt owed its beginnings to an accidental discovery of mineral deposits during the construction of a railway line, in this case the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario which the Ontario government was having built north from Toronto to provide access to a planned new agricultural frontier in the "Clay Belt" in the northeastern part of the province. The ores found in 1903 at what is now the town of Cobalt, about 500km north of Toronto near the Quebec border, were rich in silver, but they also contained cobalt and other elements. Because the ores were easily accessible from the surface a large number of mines were opened (with devastating effects on the local scenery) and many small firms (and even individuals) made money developing them. Output from the Cobalt camp peaked about 1910, but the success of mining there encouraged extensive prospecting throughout adjacent regions in Ontario and north-western Quebec and some of the fortunes made there helped finance other important mining operations such as the gold mines at Porcupine and Kirkland Lake. Cobalt is consequently often credited with being the "cradle of the Canadian mining industry". It also helped establish Toronto as a financial centre for resource development, although much of the speculative activity fostered by the Cobalt and subsequent mining ventures in northern Canada did little for the country's reputation for probity and fair dealing, particularly in the United States where promoters sold large quantities of shares in worthless Canadian mining companies.

Cobalt is an old mining town, and many tourist attractions allow a view on this long gone industry. There is a the Welcome Centre located in the Historic Train Station. Here the tours of the Historic Cobalt Mining Camp area start. It is also the location of the Cradle of Canadian Mining exhibit, providing an overview of Cobalt's unique development and history. There is a short film giving an overview on Cobalts history and an original 1919 black and white movie showing the Cobalt Mining Camp in operation. The new Cobalt's Great Canadian Mine Show is an interactive show highlighting mining technology and exploration. The Cobalt Mining Museum, also called Northern Ontario Mining Museum, holds a unique collection of historic mine materials and artifacts. Rare photographs and early newspapers, like the *Cobalt Nugget* and the *Northern Miner*, document the history of Cobalt. Rare mining books, ledgers and government manuals have been preserved and are available to researchers and historians. The Heritage Silver Trail is a self-guided drive along the back roads of Cobalt and through some of the more historical mining sites. The six kilometre loop has five principal stops. The McKinley-Darragh Mill Site introduces the processing stage of a mining. The Little Silver Vein site offers a spectacular view of an open stope, the empty mined out vein. Here is the possibility to go underground into an adit. The Right-Of-Way Mine Site offers a display of old mining machinery. Until today silver is mined in the area, at the moment about 1.6 million ounces per year. Stable and rising silver prices are the reason that new mines are presently being developed.







Where it started in 1955

Norm's catalogue lists $5675\text{-}015~BL\ /\ BL$ round 30mm - the wood below is from the 1960s



How it is today 2011 Rubin's Paint has been a preferred supplier to the Ottawa decorating and construction community for decades.







Southern Ontario Wooden Money Group from Tony Hine

Here's some pictures I took September 20, 2011:



CANADIAN

Website: http://www.nunet.ca/

Editor: Judy Blackman

E-mail: jblackman@rogers.com

Assistant Editor:

Norm Belsten, LM C45

E-mail: nbelsten@sympatico.ca

Phone: (905) 868-9187

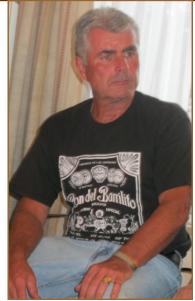
CAWMC is a member of RCNA and the SOC of CAWMC is a member of the ONA













Continued from page 7....

Peter: What's ahead for Les Brittan and family?

Les: I'm going to keep on auctioneering because I really enjoy it, but we are seriously considering moving to Panama. It would be a form of retirement, but we would probably still come back here for the summers.

Peter: Thanks again for meeting with me Les. It has been great seeing you again. Les' philosophy is to enjoy life to the fullest because, as he says, we only go around once. If you ever get a chance to attend a Les Brittan auction, I can guarantee you will be well entertained. He has a sharp wit, a terrific sense of humour and his sales are great fun. Les Brittan is available for auctions and can be reached at 905-885-5650. Shawn Brittan can also be contacted at 519-652-1377.

*Apparently Sandy (aka the Warden) had soup for lunch today. I felt badly ... but I did remember to hand her the bill for the great meal Les and I enjoyed this afternoon.

